

# DRAWN TO PROTEST



drawings by  
**CHRISTOPHER CORNFORD**  
for  
**Cambridge Anti-Nuclear Groups**  
**1979-92**

*Published by the  
Cambridge Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament*

To the memory of  
**LUCY CORNFORD**  
and her work with Christopher for  
C.A.M.B.S. and Cambridge C.N.D

69

# DRAWN TO PROTEST

Drawings by Christopher Cornford for Cambridge Anti-Nuclear Groups. 1979-1992

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Written & designed by Cassie and Peter Sparks  
with help from Andrew Bradford, Robert Inglesfield  
and, of course, Christopher himself

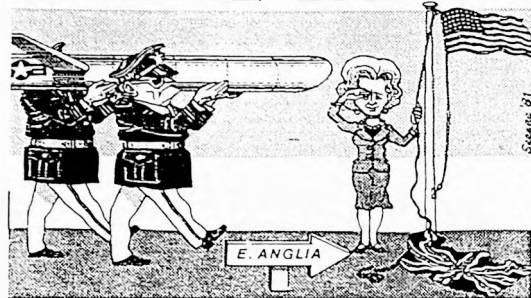
# Christopher Cornford

In the introduction to a collection of his drawings printed to mark his farewell to the Royal College of Art in 1979 after seventeen years as Professor and Head of the Department of General Studies, it was said of Christopher: "He could turn the strange politics of the RCA into a kaleidoscope of fun: pomposity is punctured, lunacy is made sane, sanity lunatic" Christopher himself responded that the professorship had given him the opportunity to combine his convictions and his activism with his academic life but also felt that he "was always regarded as a subversive element". His departure from the Royal College became CCND's gain when he turned his activism and his drawing skills to the local anti-nuclear and environmental movements. Both have continued to benefit for the last twelve years.

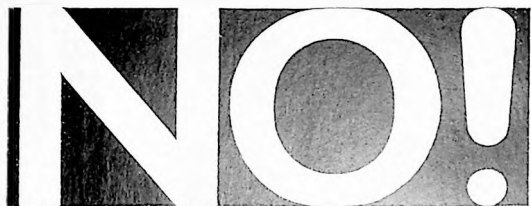
The son of a poetess and a Cambridge professor of ancient philosophy Christopher trained as an artist, first briefly through apprenticeship to Eric Gill and then at art school in London. He had already acquired his lifelong commitment to the politics of the left. While still at school he was delivering the *Daily Worker* and scanning the *Manchester Guardian* at his elder brother John's request looking for news of military preparations. John was later killed fighting for the republican side in Spain. Then, before being conscripted into the artillery for war service, Christopher became a member of the Communist Party and gained his first experience of a demonstration when beaten up by Mosley's Blackshirts at Olympia. At the RCA he tended to sympathise with the views of the rebellious students of the late sixties and was a signatory to the first major British environmentalist manifesto: *Blueprint for Survival*.

Although he will always remain primarily a painter he is now also working on a study of the use of geometry in art, architecture and design while continuing to do some cartoons, lettering and posters for the peace and green movements.

## MISSILE BASES?



## CAMBS SAYS



The cover of an "Appeal to all East Anglians" published by C.A.M.B.S. following President Carter's 1980 Presidential Directive on fighting and winning a nuclear war. In these early drawings Christopher signs himself Seesee



## C.N.D., C.A.M.B.S. and C.C.N.D.

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**T**he birth of National CND in 1958 leading to the Aldermaston marches was precipitated by Britain signing an agreement with the USA to build four bases in East Anglia to accommodate 60 Thor missiles. The revival of CND in the early 1980s was similarly triggered by a Government announcement that Cruise missiles were to be based in Britain. Once again East Anglia was in the eye of the storm, with a concentration of large US air bases: Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Alconbury, Bentwaters, Woodbridge and later Molesworth - complete with Cruise missiles. As local people commented: "At least we will die quickly".

This second wave of anti -nuclear protest was worldwide and enormous in terms of the number of people involved. During the autumn of 1981 250,000 demonstrated in Bonn, between 350,000 and 500,000 in Amsterdam (including members of the armed forces) and 800,000 in New York. In the following June 250,000 people marched in London despite a spectacular thunderstorm.

The real strength of this people's protest against warmongering leaders lay in the spontaneous growth of thousands of local groups determined to voice their dissent to policies that could only lead to genocide and the death of the planet. Although most of these groups later affiliated with CND they began as the expressions of the need in ordinary individuals for collective action. In the early 1980s there were at least 80 local anti nuclear or peace groups in East Anglia alone. Some of their names had a brave poignancy or a black humour about them: PANG (Petersfield Anti Nuclear Group), BANG, a very active group in Burwell, Girton for Peace, Families against the Bomb and WONT (Women Oppose the Nuclear Threat). In 1981 and 1982 it was commonplace to draw over a hundred people to small village or city church halls for showings of the anti nuclear film "The War Game". The Peace Movement was also galvanised by a specific women's involvement which fundamentally questioned the validity of the male dominated military and industrial establishment. Women for Life on Earth, another small local group from Wales, marched to Greenham in August 1981, intending only a brief protest. On arrival some decided to stay and they formed the nucleus

of the highly significant and enduring peace camp. The following year 30,000 women of many nationalities and from every conceivable social background "embraced" the nine mile perimeter fence, several large sections of which were simply "rocked" to the ground! After nearly ten years the camp was still there to watch the last of the cruise missiles and their warheads flown out of the base for disarming.



*One of several versions of a belligerent "Lord of Hosts" who appeared regularly in the Newsletter and elsewhere.*

In Cambridge during 1979 Frida Knight, a veteran political campaigner, joined with other activists from the local Trades Council and from the Communist Party to form CAMBS (Cambridge against the Missile Bases). In March 1980 simultaneous marches protesting against Cruise took place in Oxford and Cambridge and in July 1500 protesters gathered at Molesworth after the announcement of the proposed missile site there. Christopher Cornford, like many of his successors, was "persuaded" to become chair of CAMBS in 1981. He remained in the hot seat for two of the most creative and active years of Cambridge CND (CAMBS was renamed in 1982). Membership was soaring to well over 1000 members in the City and new groups were springing up constantly. The inaugural meeting of Youth CND attracted 250 young people and in addition to the ward and village groups there were many local specialist groups including Scientists against Nuclear Arms, the Medical Campaign and Christian CND.

During this frightening but heady period CCND was able to send 865 people to a London demonstration in a hired train! Monthly meetings could be attended by 150 people and on one occasion 31 new members joined in one evening. The Government was forced to cancel Operation Hard Rock, a national civil defence exercise, because so many Local Authorities refused to take part

when they realised the futility of emergency planning for the aftermath of a nuclear attack. Amidst all the other demands of the protest movement at its height Christopher somehow found time to spice the local campaign with his wicked cartoons and graphics in newsletters, posters and leaflets.

When he was no longer chair his drawings became a more regular feature of the Newsletter. By lightheartedly

catching the essence of politicians, peace activities or the sheer bleak absurdity of the arms race, Christopher lifted the quality of the CCND Newsletter into the best tradition of political satire. This was obviously recognised by Bruce Kent when he enthusiastically carried off a year's production of newsletters to read on the train after attending a CCND party.

Unfortunately it is the nature of posters, leaflets and newsletters, however good, to be ephemeral. Cambridge group members have therefore decided to produce this booklet as a more permanent record of Christopher's deft and humorous contributions to so much of the printed output of CCND. It is published both in gratitude to him and also in memory of his wife Lucy.



An illustration from the Newsletter in 1982. The "man who didn't book in time" is a self portrait of Christopher Cornford which can be compared with a current version drawn for the cover of this booklet. With 865 CND members on the special train it certainly was necessary to book in advance.





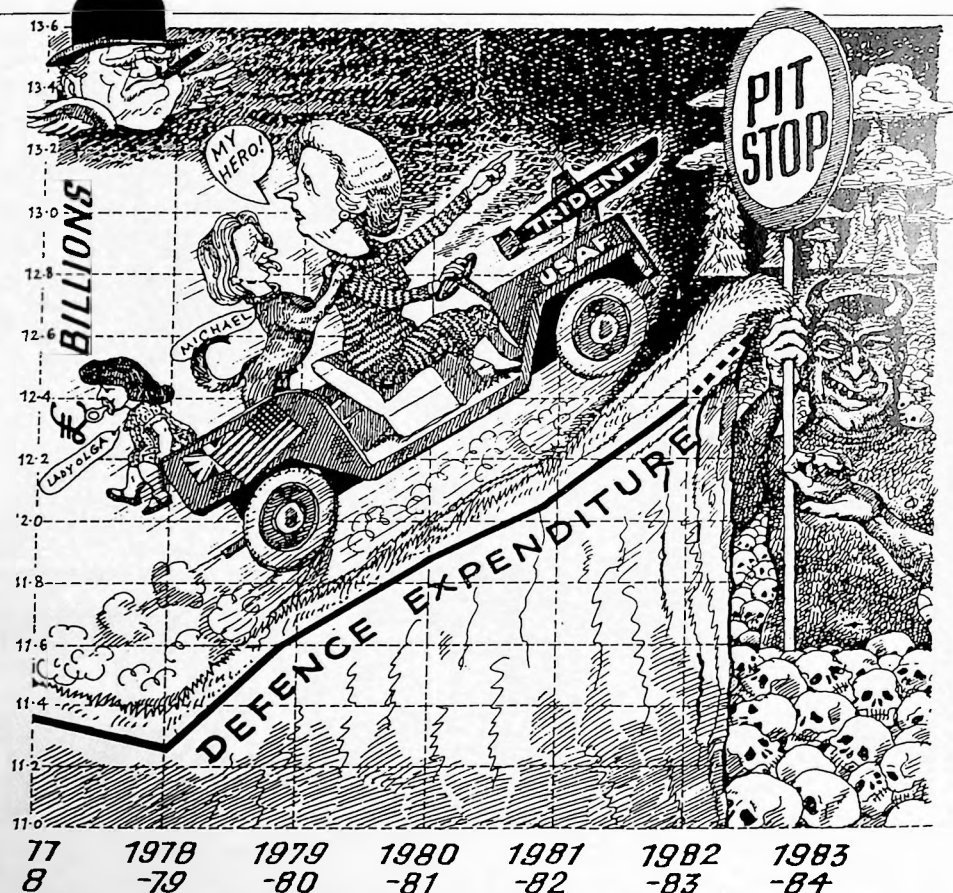


The drawings on the following ten pages are examples of Christopher's interpretation of political issues relating to the Nuclear Arms Race and the Cold War. All but three of the illustrations feature Margaret Thatcher who personified the disgust so many of us felt at Britain's subservience to the United States' policies and our Government's need to possess nuclear weapons.. During Mrs Thatcher's long years in office Christopher became increasingly detailed in drawing her different facial expressions and body language and ever more outrageous in the roles that he invented for her.

In 1981 President Reagan confirmed that the US would be prepared to fight a "limited" war in Europe. This naive view was encouraged by the development of the neutron bomb which was said to kill people with intense short term radiation while leaving buildings and military equipment intact. A petition against this policy was signed by 2000 Cambridge people in one week and by 300 others in an evening during the Hiroshima lantern ceremony.

In 1984 the US maintained that they were substantially reducing their stock of nuclear weapons. The reality was that most of the discarded missiles were obsolete and that the US still possessed at least 9000 strategic war-heads. For Britain Trident would represent an eightfold increase in nuclear yield over Polaris.

This early image of Mrs Thatcher is deceptively bland compared to later models; she is seeking heavenly guidance from her much quoted mentor, Winston. The golden haired lapdog, Michael Heseltine is happy for the moment to be in a supportive role. Lady Olga Maitland, the pro NATO founder of Women and Families for Defence is rendered speechless for once by a military issue dummy. Her loudspeakers were far from speechless during the huge anti-nuclear rallies in London in the early 1980s but they were drowned by the marchers singing songs like 'I ain't gonna study war no more' or 'Trident, Trident, what an insane idea' to the tune of 'Daisy, Daisy'.



COVERT GARBLE OPERA PRESENTS

Coming shortly

# Verdi's Ring Cycle

**THE PLOT:** Mad Queen Margaretha has for a long time been in love with Ronatto, King of Troneslandia. Together they have built up a hoard of magic treasures, and all of them are

**THE PLOT:** Mad Queen Margaretha has for a long time been in love with Ronaldo, King of Translandia. Together have built up a hoard of magic petards, capable of destroying the world dozens of times over, in order to frighten Gorbio, ruler of Riclandia, who also has a big hoard of magic petards. But one day Ronaldo, hoping to gain popularity with his subjects, decides to meet Gorbio, and together they agree each to throw away a few petards. Margaretha is inconsolable, but realises that if she can get hold of a certain super-lethal trident she will be able to kill almost

coming shortly

NB IN THE EVENT OF SUFFICIENT PUBLIC  
DEMAND THIS ENTIRE SHOW COULD BE  
**CANCELLED**

si Signora

control.

Everybody, especially the Red-  
landians. So she buys the tri-  
dent from Ronaldo for billions  
of gold pieces, and, recovering  
her full insanity, breaks into  
her final triumphant aria  
"O solely mizow, look whole  
Topcat now!"

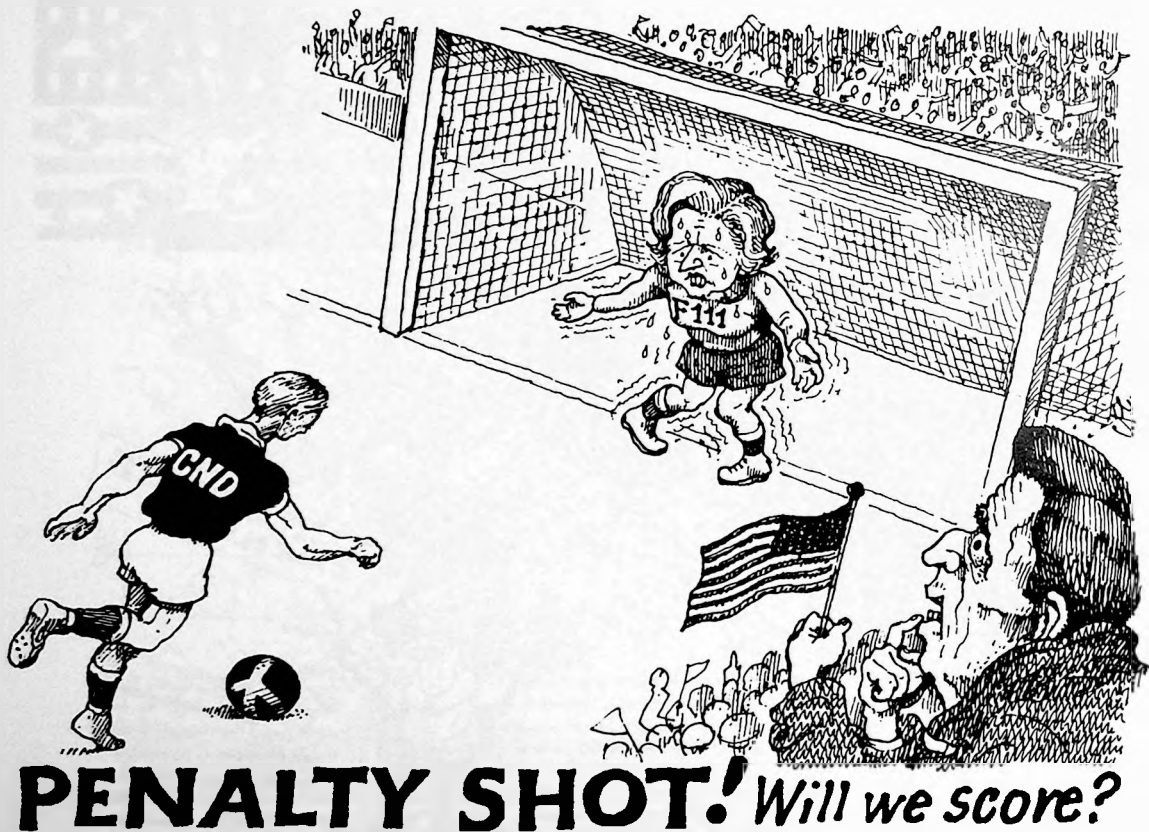
[Curtain]

Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative was dubbed 'Star Wars' in August 1986 - a cosy title reminiscent of a child's space story and one which usefully deflected the public's awareness from the destabilising effect of such a system. If one ever believed in a perfect technology, the project would make the USA immune from nuclear attack thus allowing the Americans to threaten a first strike without the fear of retaliation. This policy would greatly increase the USSR's feeling of vulnerability and would undermine all arms reduction overtures.

By early 1988 the USA and USSR were at least proposing real reductions in nuclear arms via the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) but Christopher catches Thatcher's confirmed aggressive anti Soviet, pro nuclear stance in a scintillating parody. *Riggleouts* (March 1988) is full of delicious Comfort touches to the outrageous libretto to soppy sycophantic Gelferingo.

In April 1986 eighteen US aircraft took off from Lakenheath airbase to bomb several targets in Libya including Colonel Gaddafi's work tent. Gaddafi survived but many civilians were killed. People in East Anglia heard the planes roaring overhead in the early morning and after the bombing the fear of reprisals was widespread and palpable. People felt an impotent anger about the use of British bases with no consultation beyond Thatcher and one or two ministers. We really were just another US aircraft carrier. On this occasion CCND responded with a rapid succession of actions: demonstrations in Cambridge and London, a mass meeting and large protests at Mildenhall and Lakenheath drawing in many previously uncommitted supporters.

The atmosphere at Lakenheath was electric as we passed US service families snapping the quaint British peace people. The Suffolk police were particularly gentle as they carried away wave after wave of protesters from the base entrance.



**PENALTY SHOT!** Will we score?





The Chernobyl disaster in May 1986 carried radioactive contamination far beyond national borders, reminding the World that nuclear reactors are just as hazardous as weapons. Christopher highlights the main role of civil reactors - to provide weapons-grade plutonium. Among the quotations printed above the drawing were:

"They said it could happen only once in a million years. Trouble is we live at the wrong end of the million years"

"They've already put five tonnes of plutonium into the Irish Sea"

"You can make something foolproof but you can't make anything bloody foolproof"

"The Soviets don't want a war" Gen. Bernard Rodgers, C.in C. NATO in Europe.

"Never and under no circumstances would we start a war against Western Europe, so long as we are not attacked by NATO. I repeat never." Mikhail Gorbachev.

Throughout the Cold War individuals and organisations in the West tried to make contacts with cultural and other groups in the Eastern Bloc. Sometimes this dialogue was with 'official' state backed peace groups or with dissidents. European Nuclear Disarmament (END) was particularly involved in establishing East/West links. By 1987 such exchanges were commonplace and friendly tea parties to meet the Russians occurred regularly in Cambridge at the homes of Frida Knight or Robert Inglesfield and elsewhere. Frida's voice on the phone requesting bed-spaces for Russian hordes was guaranteed to test ones international hospitality to the hilt.

Here Queen Thatcher bespiked with a trident tiara and missile collar recoils from Gorbis's winning smile and peacemaking blackbirds.





The Zircon affair concerned the Government's non-accountability to Parliament, needless secrecy and the censorship and intimidation of the media. The MOD was supposed to inform a parliamentary committee of any defence project costing over £250m! This agreement was broken over the Zircon project for a British Intelligence satellite.

The fairly innocuous TV film about the project was banned in order to prevent a "breach of national security". The Special Branch engineered raids on the offices of the New Statesman and the BBC and so pressurised the media into yet greater self-censorship. Meanwhile a pirate version of the film was shown to audiences all over Britain. Again Christopher pokes fun at the paranoia of governments.



*Christopher usually portrays Sir Geoffrey Howe as a servile lackey of Mrs Thatcher - a minute character at her feet - and it is unusual to find him getting a whole cartoon to himself as he does here. However the imagined extract from his Dimbleby lecture keeps him firmly in the 'dead sheep' class.*

**THE DIM BUMBLEBY LECTURES 1987**  
by The Rt. Hon. Sir Geoffrey de Poffle Howe PC MP  
Secretary of State for Prevarication

**EXTRACT:**

"...We in the West welcome with wholehearted alarm the nakedly aggressive peace initiatives now stemming from Moscow. We on our side are now in dire peril of running short of excuses for keeping the Cold War going. But we will adhere to our resolve: clearly we cannot dispense with a single Bomb so long as the Soviets retain their overwhelming numerical superiority in ballet dancers, doves, olive branches, not to mention conventional False Teeth, with which they will nibble bits off northern Norway the moment our back is turned - and indeed our coconuts in the South Pacific, where already...."





Any Old NATO Spokesman says:  
 "Why don't you people stop speculating  
 and take it from us that the Russians  
 are **TOTALLY EVIL!**"



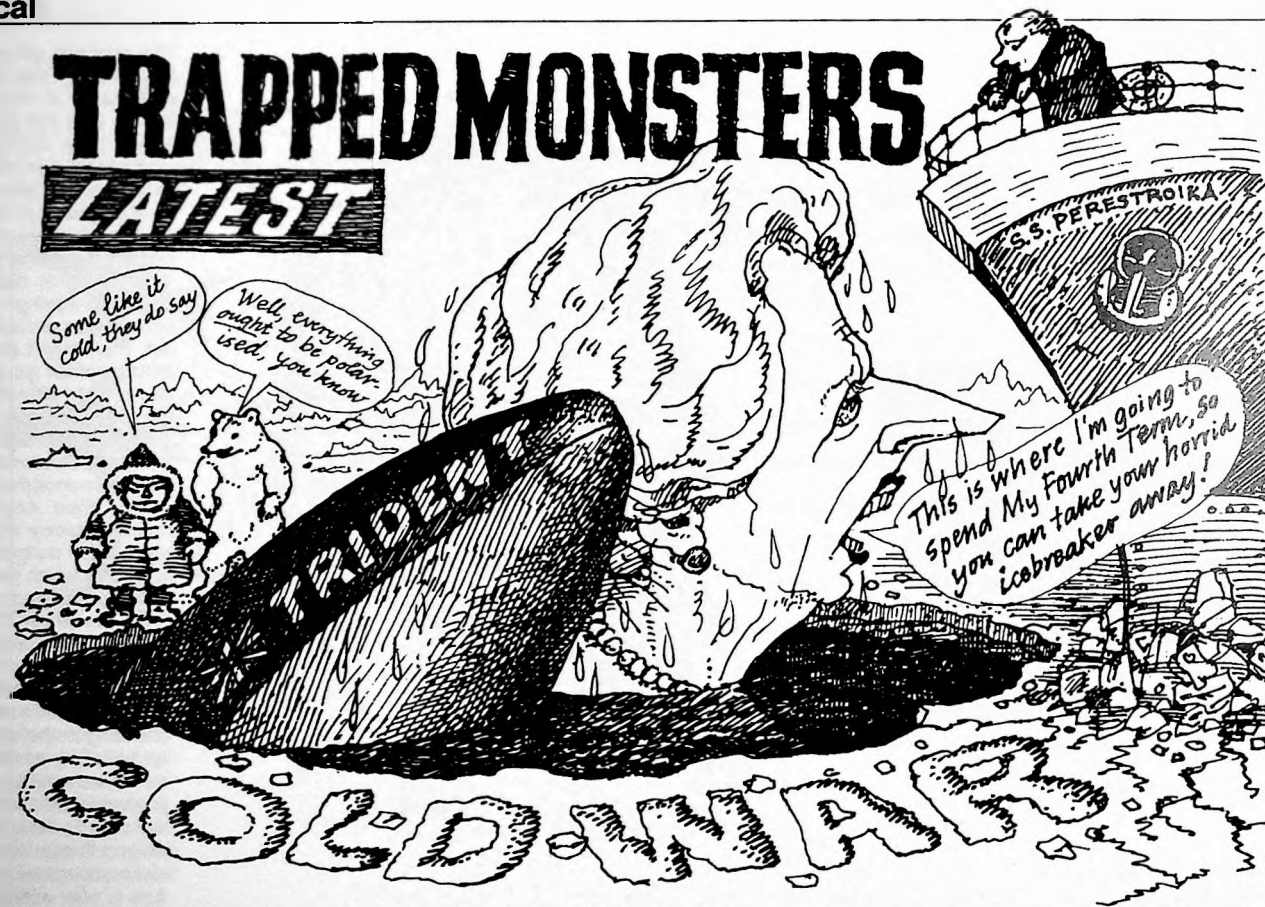
The western governments desperately needed their electorates to believe that Russia was the aggressive enemy (top). Such unquestioning fears then justified excessive military spending and the suppression of dissent that assisted the 'enemy' or undetermined 'national security'.

Early in 1982 the US proposed storing nerve gas at American air bases in Britain, including Lakenheath. Binary bombs would be carried in F111 aircraft to attack the rear of Soviet forces in Europe. It was assumed that the British Government would acquiesce once more with this policy. East Anglian CND reacted quickly with a demonstration outside Lakenheath, for which the left hand drawing was part of a notice in the Newsletter. Demonstrators handed a petition to the base commander.

Mrs Thatcher's parents were strict methodists, attending chapel at least twice on Sundays, so Prime Minister Thatcher may well have prayed (right) for divine intervention to help retain the weapons that other nations were considered too immature to play with.

# TRAPPED MONSTERS

## LATEST





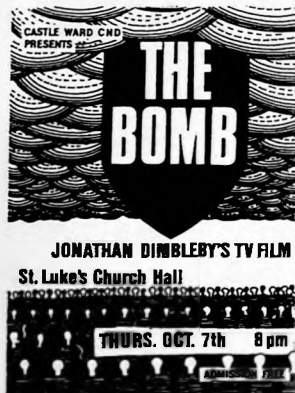
**DID YOU THINK  
that nuclear weapons were leaving  
East Anglia ?**

**DID YOU THINK  
that the cold war was over ?**

These drawings reflect the surge in Gorbachev's search for more openness in super-power relations and his continued offers of reductions in nuclear arsenals. The INF treaty and Gorbachev's reforms caused the public to feel that the anti-nuclear battle was over. "You can go home now, your job is finished". But NATO's policy of 'modernisation' would replace the 124 Cruise missiles removed from Greenham and Molesworth with 160 air-launched Cruise missiles on Strike Eagle bombers stationed at East Anglian USAF bases. The continuing Trident programme represents an eight-fold increase in nuclear firepower over Polaris. The locally produced "Two headed lady" leaflet was to alert the public to the real situation. One of Christopher's most satirical cartoons it reveals instantly Thatcher's two faced attitudes. The soft, smiling, flower waving peace-maker who is also a virago obsessed with the power of nuclear weapons. The nose sharpens, the eyes bulge and even her breast becomes a pointed weapon!

## grass roots

The flickering, indistinct black and white frames of Peter Watkins' film "The War Game" were shown to thousands of people perched on uncomfortable chairs in draughty church and school halls all over Britain. The film was a potent symbol of the mass peace movement of the early 1980s. Suddenly we were made agonisingly aware of the true nature of the arms race. Despite government publications like *Protect and Survive* ordinary people realised that there was no protection against blast, firestorms and radiation; the only hope was to ban the use and production of nuclear weapons altogether. Anti nuclear films were a source of uncensored information which provoked widespread discussion and a much greater awareness of the brutal facts of nuclear warfare. In one month in 1981 there were three different showings of "The War Game" and one of "The Bomb" (left) in the Cambridge area alone. Christopher was an enthusiastic member of Castle Ward (Cambridge) CND so we gained powerful and witty publicity (right) for our local activities.



Castle Ward CND present a **FILM SHOW** featuring



### ① STILL M.A.D. AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?

A film which looks at the strategy of Mutually Assured Destruction and the effects of Cruise missiles in Britain, and explores Russian attitudes to war and the search for peace

### ② BOOM

An award-winning animated film from Czechoslovakia - a humorous slant on a grim subject

### ③ THE BIG 17

Another Czech cartoon - a topical view of the relationship between the Arms Race and 3rd World Starvation

Castle Ward CND announce  
A SENSATIONAL

garage  
sale

including  
• BOOKS  
• CAKES  
• PLANTS  
• FLANS JUMBLE

74  
ALPHA  
ROAD



Proceeds to Molesworth Fund for Eritrea

Sat July 6<sup>th</sup> 2:30 pm



CRUISE MISSILE BASE  
IF NOT

there is a **FREE TRIP**

on **SUN. DEC 1<sup>ST</sup>**

Meet at 50 Carlyle Road **1** 2.0 pm

**BOOK  
EARLY!**

The poster (left) and a large banner which hung across Carlyle Road (ripping out a bedroom radiator in the process) ensured a keen bargaining crowd at this Castle CND sale. It drew in local people who were previously unaware of the implications of Cruise missiles based in their back yard at Molesworth only 28 miles away.

Castle CND organised a visit to the base to let local people see the rolls of razor wire designed to tear human flesh and the huge concrete bunkers being built under arc lights - convincing evidence of the insanity of nuclear politics. Christopher's apt play on words (right) draws the contrast between lovely stone churches in undulating countryside and the sterile military desert beyond the wire. Of course birds, rabbits and probably moles passed freely through the fence mocking its impregnability.



CCND has always been a mainly town based organisation although groups of students from the Anglia Polytechnic University (formerly CCAT) and Cambridge University have added periodic injections of youthful energy and ideas.

In addition a strong academic and professional influence has been provided by Scientists Against Nuclear Arms (SANA), Cambridge University Disarmament Seminar (CUDS), the Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (MCANW) and Psychologists for Peace. These specialist groups were able to call on many respected experts in the fields of medicine, astronomy, physics, philosophy and psychology. Their forte was in disseminating facts and information and arranging seminars and lectures which attracted a high level of discussion and large audiences beyond the committed activists. Consequently CCND acquired the advantage of being affiliated to academics and public figures who were able to challenge the Government and the military on their own ground.

# THE FALLACY OF STAR WARS



## SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

The Role of Scientists in Society  
and the Nuclear Arms Race —





### AFTERNOON SESSION 2.15 pm

Chairman: Prof. ROBERT HINDE FRs

(Cambridge University)

- DRUG ABUSE AND MENTAL ILLNESS AMONG NUCLEAR PERSONNEL Dr. Margaret Ballard  
(Clinical Psychologist, London)
- COPING WITH FEAR: INDIVIDUAL DEFENCE MECHANISMS Dr. James Dyer (Edinburgh University)

The link between the scientific and rational aspects of the peace movement, the passion of street campaigners and the whole world of non-violent protest was provided by the psychologist Nick Humphries who strove to reveal the emotional roots of warmongering. His anthology *In a Dark Time* contained EP Thompson's lines: "Human-kind must at last grow up - we must recognise that the OTHER is ourselves". Humphries' powerful Bronowski lecture demanded that we "should scream our revulsion against the true nature of nuclear weapons".

The members of the medical campaign (left) felt that every aspect of the development, testing and possible use of nuclear weapons was a fundamental threat to the health and survival of humanity. Only the prevention of nuclear war could protect people from its consequences. For instance the group tried to persuade local government emergency planners that any attempt to plan medical care after a nuclear strike would be pure lunacy.

## newsletter and communication

As with most protest movements the vital function of a Newsletter was to inform members of local and national actions, lectures, demonstrations, fairs etc. and to request practical help and participation. Several of Christopher's small motifs appeared regularly, adapted to current events - hence the shivering and fearful Heseltine. The Conundrum of the Month gave street and market stall activists convincing answers to some of the questions thrown at them by the public. The bucolic spy (top left) clutching his "contact list" slipped onto the back page in 1988. He reappears regularly. In 1986 CND focussed on an information campaign (top right) aimed at making people aware that the peace movement's message addressed almost universal fears about nuclear war and accidents. For instance 75% of the population rejected NATO's strategy on first use of nuclear weapons. Sadly the bus campaign (bottom right) never happened. British Transport advertising rejected it because it referred to "morally and socially sensitive subjects".



*If it weren't for the British nuclear deterrent, Soviet tanks would be at the Channel ports in no time!*

**HOW WOULD YOU REPLY ?**

**SPONSOR  
A  
BUS !**



# POSTERS AN' THAT...



## newsletter and communication

An events poster was delivered to members prepared to display it in windows etc. Christopher took on this job and drew himself as a thoroughly fed up sandwich board man. Nelson with a revitalised arm was recruited into a useful publicity role while peering down at the peace-makers marching round his column. "England Expects that everyone this day will foregather in Trafalgar Square to show Reagan & the other NATO chiefs what we think of Cruise and their other nuclear war preparations" was written below his column.

Writing to MPs is a very effective way of influencing their views and actions. Here a gleeful letter writer dreams of drowning Michael Heseltine in his CCND mail.

Christopher's bus illustrates the feelings of the relatively small number of members who usually make things happen. In his own words: "It's lovely that so many CCND members come on the big demos. But between-whiles there's always a lot of work to be done and we need more hands. Sometimes the 'hardcore' activists feel they're carrying too big a load"

## molesworth

In the semi darkness of dawn on February 6th 1985 the 100 residents of Rainbow Village were forcibly evicted in a massive police and military operation, attended by Michael Heseltine himself playing at soldiers in his flak jacket. Overnight seven miles of welded steel fencing topped by vicious razor wire were erected, turning an area of green countryside into USAF Molesworth. The construction of this death dealing compound, the future base for 64 Cruise missiles with a destructive power equal to 1000 Hiroshima bombs, cost £45m.

Before the fence RAF Molesworth was a breezy stretch of grassland indentified only by one World War II hanger. Nearby the inhabitants of Rainbow village were peacefully encamped in old decorated caravans, tents or benders making their own protest against preparations for nuclear war. People flung themselves into making the Molesworth fields into an affirmation of life before it was too late, knowing that in material terms all their work was likely to be destroyed, but not before twenty tonnes of wheat had been grown and distrib-

uted to starving people in Eritrea and a chapel for all faiths - EIRENE - had been built from rubble harvested from the airfields. Despite the chapel being innocuously placed on the very edge of the site the fence took that away from us too.

The first anniversary of that dark morning was marked by a wintery blockade of the base. The construction vehicles working on the sinister Cruise missile silos entered the base at 6 am every morning but on this icy morning (February 6th 1986) nothing moved in or out of the base for a whole working day because many hundreds of people were sitting on the frozen ground across each gate. The road behind the base was lined by coaches from all over Britain. 400 people from Cambridge dragged themselves out of bed to sit shivering in the snow singing songs from Essex CND's specially produced song book: "Men and women stand together, Do not heed the men of war, Make your minds up now or never, Ban the bomb for evermore!"

Some of the anger aroused by the eviction, the concentration camp fence and

the weapons was channelled into making Peace Corner - a rambling rock garden, resting area and hearth. The garden became a rejection of militarism and a place of pilgrimage for the constant flow of visitors expressing their abhorrence of a base built purely for nuclear missiles targeted on other human beings. The garden also grew a unique collection of banners, pictures and messages all seeking a peace and humanity which transcends national boundaries.

After the missiles arrived Molesworth Cruise-watch was set up, in close liaison with the small group of peace campers. A regular night watch operated in the small hours to monitor any movements of the missiles in training exercises. These massive convoys always emerged stealthily at night rumbling along public roads to Alconbury base with a heavy police escort. But watchers from Cambridge, East Anglia and all over Britain were always there, whether the CBs were working or not! to follow, observe and to report to the press and radio.

Non-violent protesters soon learnt to cut their way through the fence with large bolt cutters and then to fling strips of carpet over the inner rolls of razor wire in order to climb over unhurt. Mabel Baker crawling through the wire despite her painful arthritic hips was a vivid example of our determination to disrupt the 'work' of the base

in every way possible. Razor wire collected on these forays was for a while sold at 50p a snip to raise funds for CCND until we decided that the stuff was too dangerous. Night watchers took advantage of the darkness to paint messages on local roads and bridges to remind the passing public of the enormity of USAF Molesworth





...and members of the public will be reassured to hear that our MISSILES have been redirected towards the CENTRE OF THE EARTH where we have reason to think that Soviet SPETZNAZ MOLES are currently active!



Polaris missiles from Scotland were regularly transported to Burghfield armaments depot in Berkshire for 'refurbishment'. The same cycle occurs with weapons from bases in East Anglia. The convoys travel on main roads such as the A1, M11 and A45. The local authorities are not informed and serious accidents (left) have already occurred: two vehicles collided in Helensburgh and a transporter turned over in Wiltshire. With Trident based on Gareloch this traffic is even more deadly since it's exceptionally explosive propellant fuel is carried around the warhead without any protective shielding. CCND have been involved in many 'marking the route' actions on East Anglian roads.

The right hand drawing illustrated a Guardian letter from Dan Plesch of the British/American Security Information Council which does valuable work gleaning and publishing military information, mainly from US sources. Here he pointed out how many air and sea launched missiles the Western powers planned to deploy while public opinion was lulled by the INF treaty.



Here Christopher contrasts defence spending with an equivalent peaceful purchase. The comparison between the huge cost of producing, testing and maintaining our nuclear weapons - normally hidden within the 'defence' estimates - and the potential of the same sums used for the real benefit of this country and the third world is a constant argument of CND.

In a recession this argument takes on even greater significance because military costs distort economics in another long term manner: an over-concentration of research and development on weapons impoverishes research and development in industry, thus making countries less competitive.

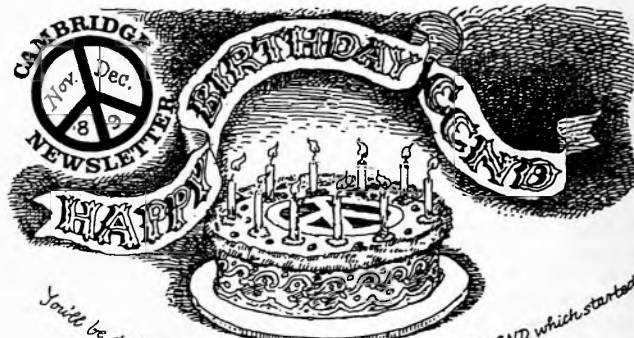
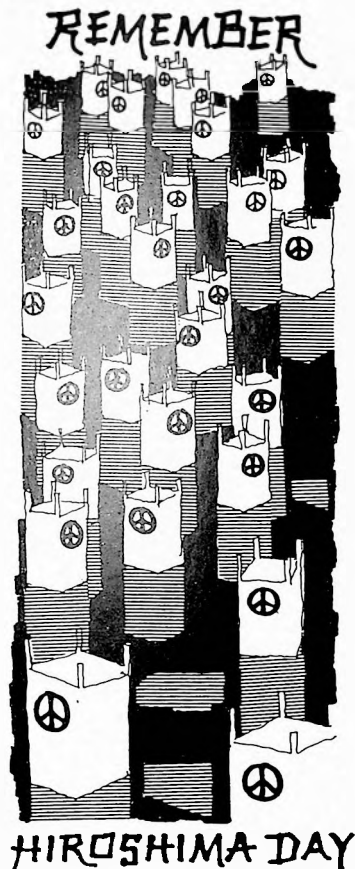
The slowest growth in investment and manufacturing production occurs in the two nations where military spending is the highest in relation to GNP: the United States and the UK

Frank Barnaby' was formerly Director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute and this talk was given in Cambridge.



## A TALK BY DR. FRANK BARNABY

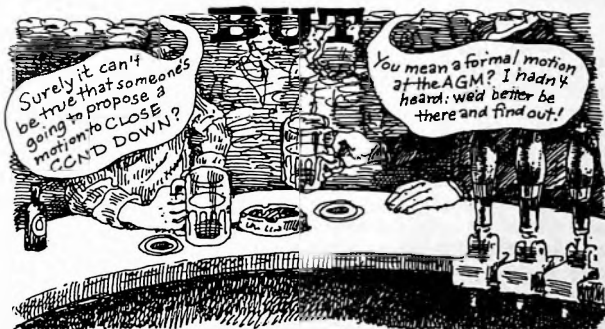




*You'll be delighted to hear that this month Cambridge CND, which started life as Cambridge Against Missile Bases (CAMS)*

**IS NOW TEN YEARS OLD!**

*-to celebrate which anniversary we're having a BIRTHDAY PARTY on WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER, at 8. pm at Robert Inglesfield's house 50 CARLYLE ROAD, to which we're all CORDIALLY INVITED, along with Spouses, Consorts, Children, Friends &c ~~~~~*



Cambridge CND members are inveterate party goers, happy to celebrate ten years of CCND (right), the Market Stall, the departure of Cruise missiles or a gathering of Russians rapidly thawing East/West reserves.

Some of the best parties happened spontaneously after events like the annual Hiroshima lantern ceremony (left) when people needed whisky revival after hours of rescuing sodden lanterns from the river and dismembering the molten parts into endless black bags; in the blackness outside Lakenheath fortified with mince pies and mulled wine over the essential fire or the decommissioning of Molesworth when all the past Nightwatchers and other supporters from Cambridge, Saffron Walden, Bishop's Stortford, Colchester, Billericay, London and Milton Keynes gathered together again around a great fire at Peace Corner; 'missiles' were consigned gleefully to the flames and nostalgic stories of convoys and blockades shared over singed veggieburgers among a forest of placards, balloons and banners.

## greenham

The name is internationally known not from the huge USAF base but from the groups of women campers, huddled round fires and sleeping under polythene, who decided to stay in a permanent protest against war. The camps at each gate were named after the colours of the rainbow and each one kept a 24 hour vigil. The cruise convoys passing in and out on their way to Salisbury Plain never emerged without the attention and disruption of the Greenham women and the Cruise Watchers.

The name "Women for Life on Earth" (the first campers from Wales) suggests why so many other women from all over Britain and many other countries identified with and visited Greenham. The peace camp's existence expressed our rejection of male militarism and the nuclear threat to the whole planet. Ironically the Common had been given to the people of Newbury between the wars for their enjoyment and recreation!

From 1981 thousands of women were arrested at Greenham for trespass, for criminal damage, for getting into prohibited areas, for paint-

ing planes and vehicles etc. etc. On 12th December 1982 a great crowd of women decorated the fence with photos, paintings, weaving, balloons and banners. Then we all held hands around the entire base and hundreds of feet of the fence were simply rocked to the ground. We were intoxicated by our own unarmed strength and the day ended with numberless candles flickering in the dark along its entire nine mile length. On another occasion five miles of fence were brought down by one thousand women! Unlike Molesworth the outer Greenham fence acquired a battered and darned quality where so many women had cut their way through.

There were two regular Cambridge groups involved with Greenham - Women Against the Nuclear Threat (WONT) and the Greenham Nightwatch. WONT circulated their own informative newsletter with regular articles about other peace issues as well as Greenham. WONT members usually camped near Green Gate, a particularly verdant and undulating part of the common full of beautiful trees.

The Nightwatch women organised a group to take over the watch every Saturday night at Violet or Indigo gates on the northern side of the base. For the long term campers evictions and harassment were a regular part of life so a night away from the base made a brief respite. Meanwhile our night watchers crouched over the fire, fell down ditches, tossed sleepless on the hard ground and by dawn looked and felt like Greenham Women. All night the military traffic roared and gates clanged but in summer the nightingales sang almost as loud.

During the miners' strike Greenham was enlivened by a new wave of women discovering their collective strength. The miners' wives brought new songs and a robust line in repartee exchanged with the squaddies enduring their long shift on the lonely side of the wire.

The campers became so expert in the law that recently hundreds of women charged with past trespass and bylaw offences have had charges quashed and compensation paid for wrongful arrest and imprisonment.

**WOMEN FOR LIFE ON EARTH** say:  
**NO CRUISE MISSILES**  
at  
**GREENHAM COMMON!**

**WOMEN'S DAY OF PROTEST**

**ALL DAY DEC 12TH 1982**

help join hands and encircle the base at 2pm

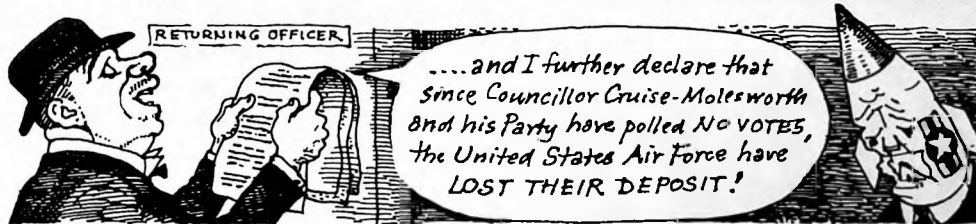
CONTACTS:  
Christine King, Alison Whyte CENTRAL END  
11, GOODWIN ST.  
LONDON N4

International Groups coming  
Women chanting for Peace in every  
language Please bring a SCARF



Mordecai Vanunu (left), an Israeli at the Dimona Nuclear Plant, revealed to the Sunday Times in 1986 that nuclear weapons were being built secretly in Israel. Following this disclosure he was abducted in Rome by the Israeli secret police. He was charged with treason and sentenced to 28 years in solitary confinement despite the fact that the western governments were well aware of Israel's nuclear capacity. Meir Vanunu came to Cambridge during his campaign to organise support for his brother's cause.

Both national CND and local groups have to grapple periodically with the dilemma of whether to diversify their efforts into related issues of the day. Both the Falklands War and the Gulf War aroused controversy among members about involvement. However, without a crystal ball, CND knew that on both occasions nuclear weapons were carried on naval vessels - particularly in submarines.





(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO TOM LEHRER)

The arrangement of this final collection of drawings so that they read: CND, Root and Branch, HELP! is not accidental. On the next two pages Andrew Bradford explains some of the reasons why, for the sake of us all, CND will have to be "sitting among the thistles" for a long time yet.

# What of the Future ?

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Over the past few years there has been a noticeable drop in CND membership. Perhaps the breaking up of the USSR and the end of the cold war has led people to feel more secure and less inclined to protest but, in reality, there have been few signs of the much heralded Peace Dividend.

The election of Bill Clinton may be welcomed but a recent article in which he stresses the need to "exert international leadership on issues threatening the health of the planet" significantly fails to make any reference to either nuclear weapons or waste.

On the high seas an act of utter madness is going on: the *Akatsuki Maru* is carrying a cargo of more than 1.5 tonnes of radioactive plutonium from Cherbourg to Japan. It is difficult to overestimate the hazardous nature of such a voyage and yet it is only the precursor of many similar shipments, most notably from the new reprocessing plant at Sellafield, Thorp Hall. BNFL said recently that it was all quite safe, that the plutonium belonged to the Japanese and if they wanted it they were quite entitled to have it back. This is the sort of language that a child might use whose ball had landed in a neighbour's garden. The naivety of it is terrifying.

The commissioning of Thorp Hall has recently been postponed by fears about the probable emission levels of radioactive Krypton 85 gas but if it does come into use the number of loads of nuclear waste travelling throughout the country will greatly increase. Locally the cargoes will arrive and depart from Felixstowe and so use main East Anglian roads past Ipswich, Bury, Cambridge and Peterborough to reach the A1 and the North.

CND's main campaign in recent years has been against the development of the Trident programme. As described in the captions to some of Christopher's drawings, at a time when America and Russia have been cutting back their nuclear arsenals, the British Government, faced with the worst recession since the 1930s has spent billions of pounds on a weapons system which constitutes a massive increase in Britain's destructive capacity, which contravenes article 6 of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and which has no justification whatsoever. Locally the A1 will






be the focus for this activity as RAF Wittering is used as an overnight stopping place for the warhead transporters.

East Anglia is also affected by the movement of WE177 free Fall Nuclear Bombs which pass along the A1, A45 and M11 to and from RAF Honington. If this were not enough there remains the very real possibility that Tactical Air-to-Surface nuclear missiles will be based at USAF Lakenheath in the near future.

The nuclear power stations at Sizewell and Bradwell are an ever present threat to the region's safety. Bradwell's "safe" design life of 30 years expires this year but the Government plans to continue its use and claims this quite safe. The Russians of course said the same of Chernobyl and, like Chernobyl, Bradwell has no secondary containment so that, in the event of an accident, radioactivity would be released straight into the atmosphere. Much has been said about the lack of direction in the Government's policy-making but in their cavalier disregard for the nation's safety and well-being they have been entirely consistent.

Members of CND have been equally consistent in highlighting the foolhardy approaches of successive governments to the nuclear issue and throughout this book Christopher's drawings bear witness to that. The book's dedication is to the memory of his wife Lucy but it also stands as tribute to all those other activists and supporters who have campaigned with vigour and integrity for a world where people can live in peace and safety, free from the fear of arbitrary annihilation. CND may be obliged to dwell on themes of death and destruction but it is essentially a celebration and a positive affirmation of the value of life in all its myriad forms. It will therefore continue to raise its voice alongside those of Greenpeace, the Campaign Against the Arms Trade and the wider peace movement to confront the very many challenges that still face us.



**Andrew Bradford, Chair, CCND, 1992**

## HYMN No: F one eleven

verses by Christopher Comford with acknowledgements to Isaac Ware (A&M no 165)

O God our help in ages past  
Pray hear our urgent psalms -  
We need excuses, thick and fast,  
For keeping nuclear arms.

We used to know just what was what:  
Us GOOD and Them all BAD -  
But Gorbachev has changed all that,  
The ghastly Bolshie cad!

If we can't prove he means us harm  
And constitutes a threat  
We lack all reason to rearm,  
Our plans are quite upset.

DETERRENCE is a lovely word  
But what will people say?  
They'll ask what's left to be deterred  
Now GLASNOST's come to stay.

To modernise (to modern eyes)  
Is statesmanlike and bold:  
On this we'll never compromise  
Nor see our Cold War Kohled!

Lord, since Suspicion, Hate and Fear  
are what we've flourished on,  
Let NATO never disappear  
and leave us woebegone!

A-A-A-A (ma) MEN (t)

Back cover: Members of CAMBS gather in New Square to board coaches for a London demonstration. Christopher and Lucy Comford are below the banner and Frida Knight is in the lower left hand corner. Photograph reproduced by permission of the artist.

